

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 COLOMB 03507 051209Z

46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 IO-10 STR-04 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07

NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15 OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00

AGR-05 FEAE-00 INT-05 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /115 W

----- 008207

R 050900Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3683

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USUN NEW YORK 416

C O N F I D E N T I A L COLOMBO 3507

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ECON, EAU ,CE, US

SUBJ: DUBS' CALL ON PRIME MINISTER

1. SUMMARY. DURING MY NOV 4 CALL ON PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE WITH DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DUBS, HE EXPLAINED US POLICY TOWARD SOUTH ASIA WHILE PM, ON HER PART, EXPRESSED GRATITUDE FOR US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE. SHE STRESSED HIGH PRIORITY BEING DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION BUT SAID THAT OBJECTIVE OF SELF-SUFFICIENCY STILL HAD NOT BEEN ACHIEVED BECAUSE OF DROUGHT CONDITIONS AND OTHER EXTERNAL FACTORS. PRIME MINISTER SAID NON-ALIGNMENT HAD PROVED SUCCESSFUL FOR SRI LANKA, WHICH ALSO SOUGHT TO RECONCILE CONFLICTING VIEWPOINTS IN SOUTH ASIA, AND SHE REAFFIRMED NEED FOR MODERATION IN RELATIONS BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. I CONVEYED USG'S APPRECIATION FOR SRI LANKA'S ABSTENTIONS ON RECENT KOREAN VOTES IN UN AND PRIME  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 COLOMB 03507 051209Z

MINISTER AFFIRMED THAT GSL WOULD CONTINUE TO ABSTAIN

WHEN KOREAN ISSUE CONSIDERED IN PLENARY. END SUMMARY.

2. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DUBS AND I HAD CORDIAL AND RELAXED MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER BANDARANAIKE AT TEMPLE TRESS NOV 4.

3. DUBS OPENED CONVERSATION BY OUTLINING USG'S BASIC POLICIES TOWARDS SOUTH ASIA, NOTING THAT WE WERE INTERESTED PRIMARILY IN PEACE, ECONOMIC PROGRESS, AND STABILITY IN THE AREA AND HOPED IT WOULD BE REGION IN WHICH NO SINGLE EXTERNAL POWER EXERCISED DOMINANT INFLUENCE. USG FULLY RESPECTED SRI LANKA'S NON-ALIGNMENT AND ADMIRERD EFFORTS OF PRIME MINISTER TO MOVE HER COUNTRY DOWN THE PATH OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DESPITE INTERNAL PROBLEMS, SUCH AS 1971 INSURGENCY, AND EXTERNAL PROBLEMS CAUSED BY SHARPLY INCREASED PRICES OF SRI LANKA'S IMPORTS.

4. PRIME MINISTER SAID SHE WAS ENDEAVORING TO DEVELOP THE COUNTRY AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE BUT THAT SHE HAD NOT BEEN FULLY SUCCESSFUL IN SOME AREAS, IN PART BECAUSE OF EXTERNAL CIRCUMSTANCES. HER HIGHEST PRIORITY WAS SELF-SUFFICIENCY IN FOOD WHICH SHE BELIEVED WAS AN ATTAINABLE OBJECTIVE ALTHOUGH IT HAD PROVED ELUSIVE TO DATE, LARGELY BECAUSE OF RECENT DROUGHT CONDITIONS AND EXTERNAL FACTORS SUCH AS THE RISE IN ENERGY COSTS. EVEN TODAY, ALTHOUGH THERE WAS AN OVER-ABUNDANCE OF RAIN IN MANY AREAS, ANURADHAPURA AND OTHER NORTH CENTRAL PORTIONS OF THE ISLAND FACED A RAIN SHORTFALL. FARMERS THERE WERE RELUCTANT TO PLANT THEIR NEXT CROPS UNTIL TANKS WERE AT LEAST HALF FULL. PRIME MINISTER WENT ON TO SAY THAT UNTIL AGRICULTURAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY WAS ACHIEVED, IT WOULD BE UNWISE TO DEVOTE SUBSTANTIAL RESOURCES TO IMPORTATION OF RAW MATERIALS AND INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDED FOR INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT. HOWEVER, SMALL, AGRO-BASED INDUSTRIES SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED.

5. DUBS NOTED THAT GSL'S FOCUS ON AGRICULTURE, PAR-  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 COLOMB 03507 051209Z

TICULARLY NEEDS OF SMALL FARMERS, FITTED IN WITH CURRENT ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE POLICY WHICH ALSO INCOUDED ASSISTANCE IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION, NUTRITION AND FAMILY PLANNING. PRIME MINISTER EXPRESSED WARM APPRECIATION FOR US ASSISTANCE EFFORTS AND RECALLED THAT SEVERAL YEARS AGO UNITED STATES AND JAPAN WERE ONLY WESTERN AID DONORS WHICH HAD SUPPORTED CONVENING OF AID GROUP, AN ACTION FOR WHICH

GSL REMAINED GRATEFUL. SOME COMPLICATIONS HAD ARISEN THIS YEAR BECAUSE OF LATE DELIVERIES OF PL 480 WHEAT FLOUR. ON ONE HAND THIS HAD PROVIDED COUNTRY WITH AMPLE SUPPLIES OF FLOUR BUT IT HAD HAD DEPRESSING EFFECT ON THE PRICES OF SUBSIDIARY FOODSTUFFS. I SAID THAT WE RECOGNIZE PROBLEM THIS HAD CAUSED BUT RECALLED THAT GSL HAD AFFIRMED ITS DESIRE TO HAVE PL 480 WHEAT FLOUR AND HAD INDICATED THAT NO STORAGE PROBLEMS WOULD ARISE. IN ORDER TO AVOID SIMILAR PROBLEM THIS YEAR, WE HOPED WE WOULD SOON BE ABLE TO INFORM GSL AS TO HOW MUCH PL 480 ASSISTANCE MIGHT BE AVAILABLE.

6. TURNING TO FOREIGN POLICY, DUBS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR MODERATE STANCE SRI LANKA HAD ADOPTED IN INTERNATIONAL FORA, STRESSING THAT US OBJECTIVE WAS TO ESTABLISH EFFECTIVE DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION ON SPECIFIC ISSUES WITH DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND TO AVOID SHARP RHETORICAL CONFRONTATIONS. THIS WAS BASIC PURPOSE OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S ADDRESS TO UN SPECIAL SESSION. PRIME MINISTER AGREED FULLY WITH THIS APPROACH, COMMENTING THAT SHE HAD READ THROUGH SECRETARY'S SPEECH. SRI LANKA'S EXPERIENCE AT TIME OF 1971 INSURGENCY WAS CLEAR PROOF THAT NON-ALIGNMENT WAS TO SRI LANKA'S BENEFIT. AT TIME OF THIS NATIONAL CRISIS, BROAD RANGE OF COUNTRIES INCLUDING SOVIET UNION, UNITED STATES, UK, INDIA, PAKISTAN, EGYPT AND OTHERS HAD COME TO SRI LANKA'S HELP.

7. RE SITUATION IN SOUTH ASIA, PRIME MINISTER NOTED THAT, AS SMALL COUNTRY, SRI LANKA'S INTERESTS LAY IN REGIONAL STABILITY AND RECONCILIATION OF CONFLICTING

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 COLOMB 03507 051209Z

VIEWPOINTS. THEREFORE, IN RECENT CONTEST BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN FOR ASIAN SECURITY COUNCIL SEAT, GSL HAD MADE IT CLEAR THAT IT WAS FRIEND OF BOTH INDIA AND PAKISTAN AND, AS SUCH, WOULD ABSTAIN RATHER THAN SUPPORT CANDIDATES OF EITHER COUNTRY. SHE HAD HOPED TWO COUNTRIES WOULD REACH COMPROMISE BUT INDIA IN EARLY STAGES HAD INSISTED ON PRESSING AHEAD WITH ITS CANDIDACY.

8. PRIME MINISTER AGAIN UNDERSCORED HER APPRECIATION FOR US ASSISTANCE, NOTING THAT THIS YEARS AID LEVEL WAS HIGHEST TO DATE. SRI LANKA WAS TRYING TO COPE EFFECTIVELY WITH ITS INTERNAL PROBLEMS BUT, AS ONE OF MORE SEVERELY AFFECTED COUNTRIES, IT HAD BEEN BADLY BUFFETED BY INCREASED PRICES OF FOOD,

FERTILIZER, AND FUEL. DUBS UNDERSCORED USG'S CONTINUED INTEREST IN SRI LANKA'S WELFARE AND OUR DESIRE TO BE OF ASSISTANCE.

9. AT CONCLUSION OF MEETING, I EXPRESSED USG'S APPRECIATION FOR BALANCED POSITION SRI LANKA HAD TAKEN IN UN FIRST COMMITTEE ON KOREAN ISSUE TO WHICH WE ATTACHED MAJOR IMPORTANCE (STATE 257118; STATE 259571). WE REALIZED PROBLEM GSL FACED IN FULLY SUPPORTING USG BUT WERE GRATEFUL FOR ITS ABSTENTION ON BOTH PROCEDURAL AND SUBSTANTIVE VOTES. NOTING THAT SRI LANKA WAS MEMBER OF NON-ALIGNED GROUP AND HOST OF NEXT YEAR'S SUMMIT, PRIME MINISTER EXPLAINED THAT GSL COULD NOT TAKE DEFINITE POSITION IN SUPPORT OF EITHER NORTH OR SOUTH KOREA. HOWEVER, SOUTH KOREA WAS A FACT OF LIFE AND SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED AS SUCH JUST AS MOST COUNTRIES NOW RECOGNIZED EXISTENCE TWO GERMANY'S. IN REPLY TO MY QUESTION, PM SAID SRI LANKA WOULD CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN ITS ABSTENTION POSITION WHEN KOREAN ISSUE CONSIDERED IN PLENARY.

VAN HOLLEN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, PERSONNEL TRAVEL  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 NOV 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975COLOMB03507  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750384-0470  
**From:** COLOMBO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751173/aaaacnjj.tel  
**Line Count:** 191  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 16 JUL 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <10 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DUBS' CALL ON PRIME MINISTER  
**TAGS:** PFOR, ECON, EAID, CE, US, (BANDARANAIKE, SIRIMAVO), (DUBS, ADOLPH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006